

HILL RINKINS & HAYDEN LLP  
*Attorneys for Defendants Usiminas Mecânica S/A  
and Unibanco AIG Seguros S/A*  
45 Broadway, Suite 1500  
New York, New York 10006  
Tel: (212) 669-0600  
Fax: (212) 669-0699

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

BBC CHARTERING & LOGISTICS GMBH &  
CO. KG.,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

Index No.: 08-cv-200 (WHP)

USIMINAS MECÂNICA S/A, PERINI O&G,  
PERINI CORP., O&G INDUSTRIES, INC., and  
UNIBANCO AIG SEGUROS S/A,

DECLARATION OF DR.  
CHRISTIAN SMERA

Defendants.

Dr. Christian Smera declares under penalty of perjury as follows:

1. I am an attorney licensed to practice before the courts of Brazil. I have been in the practice of law for 15 (fifteen) years and have appeared before all fourteen City Civil Courts of Santos, State Justice Tribunal of São Paulo and Superior Tribunal of Justice in Brasília.

2. Under Brazilian law, all contracts issued in Brazil - or to be complied with in Brazil - are subject to Brazilian law. The courts of Brazil have authority and

Christian Smura  
Attorney at Law  
New York, NY  
10006

jurisdiction to hear all cases involving claims under bills of lading issued - or to be compiled with - in Brazil. A carrier who issues a bill of lading for a cargo shipped from Brazil makes itself subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of Brazil. These rules and provisions are foreseen in Articles 88 and 90 of Procedural Civil Code (Federal law # 8869 of 1973).

3. On May 3, 2007, on behalf of my client, Unibanco AIG, I instituted a lawsuit at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Civil City Court in São Paulo, Brazil, against BBC Chartering & Logistics GmbH ("BBC"). The complaint set forth a cause of action for damage sustained by a cargo of bridge components transported aboard the M/V MALTE B from Vitória, Brazil to New York. The bill of lading which covered the cargo was issued by BBC on June 16, 2006, in Vitória.

4. The following details describe the lawsuit mentioned in paragraph 3 above.

Lawsuit # 583.00.2007.147593-8

42<sup>nd</sup> Civil Court of the City of São Paulo - Central Court.

Lawsuit amount: R\$ 1,369,459,59

Plaintiff: Unibanco AIS Seguros S.A.

Defendant : BBC Chartering & Logistics GmbH

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Unibanco AIS Seguros S.A.  
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5. BBC answered the complaint on August 29, 2007. In its answer, BBC argued that the Brazilian court was incompetent to hear the case and argued that German law applied to the bill of lading and that any disputes should be arbitrated in Germany. Brazilian law does not recognize contracts which seek to deprive its courts of jurisdiction over suits by Brazilians against foreign carriers. This is due to provisions inserted in the same Article 90 of Procedural Civil Code (Federal Law 5869 of 1973). The court, consequently, held that it was competent to hear the case and rejected BBC's argument.

6. On February 12<sup>th</sup> 2008 a trial was held before the 42<sup>nd</sup> Civil City Court of São Paulo. After the trial, the court held BBC liable for the loss and held it liable to Unibanco AIG for the sum of R\$34,337.41 (approximately US\$32,000.00). Unibanco AIG has appealed the decision with respect to the amount of the damages and the case is presently before the State Tribunal of Justice of São Paulo.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1746 that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on May 27, 2008  
Signed:   
Christian Smets  
Advogado  
OAB: 1893 - 126.324  
At: Santos, Brazil